

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

SENATE MEMORIAL 47

**49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2010**

INTRODUCED BY

Stuart Ingle

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF BILL DALLEY TO COLLECT AND PRESERVE  
WINDMILLS AS A VALUABLE REPRESENTATION OF EARLY WESTERN  
HERITAGE IN ROOSEVELT COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, wind energy is one of the oldest sources of  
energy used by humankind; and

WHEREAS, there are references to the existence of  
windmills relating to a Persian millwright in 644 A.D. and to  
windmills in Persia in 915 A.D.; and

WHEREAS, windmills appeared in Europe in 1180 A.D. and  
were developed for a variety of purposes, including wind pumps  
that were used by the Dutch to drain their low-lying lands; and

WHEREAS, after a decline in the use of windmills, a  
resurgence was seen in rural America as windmills began to be  
used for pumping water from wells; and

.181669.1

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1           WHEREAS, in 1854, the first wind pump was introduced in  
2 the United States by David Halliday, whose multivaned wind pump  
3 was misnamed the windmill; and

4           WHEREAS, other inventors followed, including the Reverend  
5 Leonard H. Wheeler, whose windmill called the Eclipse became  
6 the best-known windmill in his area in 1867; and

7           WHEREAS, after another American, Stewart Parry, began  
8 constructing wind pumps made of steel and equipped with metal  
9 vanes in 1883, the popularity of windmills spread around the  
10 world; and

11           WHEREAS, although primarily used for pumping water, other  
12 uses for windmills were soon found, including cutting wood,  
13 grinding feed, shelling corn and performing other daily chores;  
14 and

15           WHEREAS, at a cost of only a few pennies a day, windmills  
16 eased the backbreaking burden of many farmers and settlers of  
17 early days; and

18           WHEREAS, homemade windmills were often constructed of  
19 whatever materials were on hand and came to be known by such  
20 colorful names as the four-blade battle ax, the two-blade  
21 battle ax, the barrel mill, the go-devil and even a butter  
22 churn; and

23           WHEREAS, Bill Dalley of Portales, New Mexico, has  
24 assembled an impressive collection of windmills, including  
25 thirteen solid-wheel wooden mills, thirteen vaneless mills,

.181669.1

underscoring material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1 three miscellaneous mills and nine incomplete mills for a total  
2 of eighty-five windmills in his collection; and

3 WHEREAS, twenty-five additional windmills have been  
4 restored by Bill Dalley for individual collectors or for  
5 museums; and

6 WHEREAS, Bill Dalley has taken on this project out of a  
7 love for history and to preserve a part of early western  
8 heritage in Roosevelt county;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
10 OF NEW MEXICO that the efforts of Bill Dalley to collect and  
11 preserve windmills be recognized and appreciated; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that recognition also be extended  
13 to Bill Dalley's wife, Alta Dalley, who supports his efforts  
14 and endures his collection of junk, his son and daughter-in-law  
15 Don and Ronda Dalley, his daughter and son-in-law, Sherri and  
16 Mark McAfee, and to his daughter and son-in-law, Diane and  
17 Steve Harris, for their hard work and help in preserving the  
18 collection; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
20 transmitted to Bill and Alta Dalley and to Diana and Steve  
21 Harris.